(b) and (c) They are dependant upon the outcome of the above Presidential Reference.

Interlinking of major rivers

†2260. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the target of implementing the august plan of interlinking the basin water of major rivers of the country by linking the basins with one another and lastly connecting them with Cauvery basin by the year 2016 has been fixed;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the length of waterways required to be constructed to facilitate the flow of water to reach Cauvery basin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) A Task Force on Inter-linking of rivers under the Chairmanship of Shri Suresh P. Prabhu, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha was constituted on 13.12.2002. As per the milestone dates attached with the constitution of the Task Force, the feasibility studies on the links and Detailed Project Report (DPR) were scheduled for completion by 31.12.2005 and 31.12.2006 respectively. Also the Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) programme was scheduled for completion by the end of the year 2016. As a part of comprehensive assessment of inter-linking of rivers, a presentation was made by Ministry of Water Resources on 'Interlinking of Rivers' before Hon'ble Prime Minister of October 11, 2004. After the presentation, a number of decision were taken, including to pursue the programme of Interlinking of Rivers with focus on Peninsular Component in a fully consultative manner. The implementation of the interlinking of rivers programme involves a no. of crucial stages *viz.* (i) Preparation of Feasibility Reports, (ii) Agreement/MOU among the states (iii) Preparation of Detailed project Reports (DPR) (iv) Techno-economic appraisal (v) Investment clearance & (vi) Funding the Project and is essentially dependent on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The approximate length of the link system to facilitate the flow of water from Mahanadi river to Cauvery river as per the feasibility reports prepared by the National Water Development Agency is estimated as 2050 Kilometer.

Surplus water in the basin of major rivers

†2261. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during rainy seasons there is 30,000 to 60,000 cubic meter per second surplus water in the basins of major rivers like the Ganga, Brahmaputra, Mahanadi and Godavari in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of surplus water in each of the above basin; and

(c) the details regarding quantum of this surplus available water being utilized in each of the basins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) About 75% of rainfall occurs during monsoon period (June to October) with a considerable part from a few spells of intense rainfall. Owing to topographical and other constraints only limited water out of it is utilizable. After carrying out studies, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified surplus river basins. The quantum of annual surplus water available at 75% dependability after accounting for respective in basin water needs in the river basins in the ultimate stage of the development is as follows:—

River Basin/Diversion Point	Water balance at 75% dependability (Million Cubic Metre (Mcum)
Himalayan Component	
1. Ganga at Bhimgoda	(-) 2327
2. Ganga at Narora	(-) 1988
3. Ganga at Chunnar	9834
4. Brahmputra at Jogighopa	453297

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.